

# Szélanya

**Szélanya** (Old Turkic: **Çel Ene** or **Cel Ana**, "Wind Mother") is the Hungarian goddess or deity of wind.<sup>[1]</sup><sup>[2]</sup>

She is the daughter of Kayra, the primordial god.

Her male counterpart is Szélatya.

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## Names in various languages

- Uzbek: *Yel Ona*
- Tatar: *Жил Әни* or *Жил Ана* or *Cil Ana*
- Kazakh: *Жел Ана*
- Chuvash: *Çил Анне* or *Çил Абай*
- Bashkort: *Ел Анай*
- Sakha: *Тыал Ийэ*
- Turkmen: *Ýel Ene* or *Yel Eje*
- Kyrgyz: *Жел Эне*
- Khakas: *Чил Ине* or *Чил Иче*
- Balkar: *Джел Ана*
- Mongolian: *Салхи Ээж*
- Buryat: *Һалхин Эхэ*
- Oirat: *Салькн Эк*
- Altay: *Салкын Эне*
- Tuvan: *Салгын Ава*

All of them mean, "wind mother".

The Onoghurs (Huns) also worshipped her.

## Description

She is a wise, elderly woman who lives in a cave on top of a huge mountain somewhere at the end of the world. She rides the winds and creates storms and whirlwinds.

Szelanya has a Slavic version which is a nymph who has power over wind, which she delight in causing storms. She lives around hills, mountains, and high mounds.

In Hungarian and Turkic mythology, she is also believed to be female fairy-like spirit who lives in the wilderness and sometimes in the clouds.

## References

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1. Rovásokrólunk - Táltoshitünk (<http://rovasokrolunk.uw.hu/minioldal/tenger.html>)
2. Magyar Néprajzi Lexikon - szél (<http://mek.oszk.hu/02100/02115/html/4-1639.html>) (in Hungarian)

## Bibliography

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- Mitológiai enciklopédia I. Főszerk. Szergej Alekszandrovics Tokarjev. A magyar kiadást szerk. Hoppál Mihály. Budapest: Gondolat. 1988. ISBN 963-282-027-4 (in Hungarian)
- Türk Mitolojisi Ansiklopedik Sözlük, Celal Beydili, Yurt Yayınevi (Page - 608) (in Turkish)

## External links

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- Pagan Study Group - Wind deities (<https://thepaganstudygrouppage.tumblr.com/post/57662529216/blown-away>)

## See also

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- Hungarian mythology
- Yel iyesi
- Szelatya

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